Amendments to the abstract

Please **amend** the abstract to read:

--A hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive (or multi-predictive) coding mode allows both intraframe (intra) (301 in FIG. 5) and interframe (inter) (302 in FIG. 5) predictions to be combined together for hybrid-encoding a current macroblock or a subblock (310 in FIG. 5). Bi-prediction may be used also in I-pictures, combining two intra predictions that use two different intra prediction directions. A video encoder (700) processes data representing a two-dimensional video image which has been produced by a conventional commercially available video camera. The video encoder is adapted to select, for coding a current macroblock, between an intra encoding mode, an P-frame inter encoding mode, a B-frame bi-predictive inter mode, and a hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive encoding mode. A video decoder (800) receives and decodes a data stream that may contain a block/macroblock encoded in accordance with the hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive encoding mode.--